

## **MELODY G. DUVALL**

Oxford Scholar 2003

Degree: University of Alabama at Birmingham: B.S., Biology and Chemistry, 2000

Research Area: Viral Immunology, Infectious Diseases



Melody Duvall graduated summa cum laude with Honors in biology research from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. While an undergraduate, Melody received many awards and distinctions, including the Alabama Academy of Science research grant, a University Scholars award, a UAB student research award, Robert C. Byrd National Honor Scholarship, and was included on the Presidential Honor Roll. She also participated in various research opportunities while at the University of Alabama. After graduation, Melody became a National Science Foundation research fellow at the Jackson Laboratory in Maine, where she studied a strain of mouse that was resistant to mouse mammary tumor virus. Her discoveries led to a first author contribution to the *Journal of Experimental Medicine*. She then spent a year as a post baccalaureate research fellow at the National Institutes of Health, focusing on HIV-induced CD4<sup>+</sup> T lymphocyte destruction, which led to additional contributions to the medical literature. Melody has completed two years at Washington University School of Medicine in St Louis and will finish medical training following her Ph.D. She has been a leader in health education initiatives, working on projects to educate students about AIDS as part of the Global AIDS education campaign and journeying to Dominica and Central America to carry out research and education on AIDS especially among pregnant women. In her research, she is dedicated to research towards an HIV vaccine by studying immune responses against HIV-1 and HIV-2 in the field in the Gambia under the mentorship of Richard Koup and Sarah Rowland-Jones. From these experiences, Melody has come to the realization that “science and medicine do not exist in a vacuum, but rather are permeated by individual, societal, economic and political issues.”